



Haverhill

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“Mayor Announces Crackdown on Illegal Building Activity”

(26 contractors ordered to pay double fees for failing to take out permits)

Today, Mayor James J. Fiorentini announced a crackdown on illegal building activity in the city. Under the crackdown, city building and health inspectors will monitor neighborhoods and personnel will be assigned nights and weekends to look for illegal activity. Anyone caught making repairs without the proper permits will be required to pay a double permit fee and maybe fined. Contractors who are repeat offenders will be reported to the state and their professional license could be at stake.

Mayor Fiorentini stated:

“I drove around town a couple of Saturdays ago and found a number of people doing work without building permits. This is completely unacceptable and is unfair to the vast majority of our residents and contractors who pull all of the necessary permits. Everyone needs to pay their fair share.”

“It is simply not fair to our honest hard-working homeowners who pay their taxes, pay all of their fees and pull all of their permits that some people are not playing by the rules.

“I have also asked our health and inspectional services director, Richard MacDonald, to institute a quick permit system. For small permits, I want people to be able to quickly log on to our system and obtain the permit quickly. I also want to look at reducing fees for people with small permits.”

The Mayor said that since he noticed the activity, he has ordered a crackdown and had inspectors out checking for work done without permits. Thus far, 26 people, most of them professional contractors, have been caught doing work without a permit and required to pay a double fee. The Mayor said he was also planning to look at the existing ordinances to see if they needed to be strengthened.

Under existing city laws, all structural work, and all work in excess of \$1,000 requires a building permit. People who were doing work and are not certain if it requires a building permit, should call the Health and Inspectional Services Office at 978-374-2325.

If a building permit is required, the permit must be prominently displayed so that anyone driving by the house can see it. If you see work that is being done without a permit, please report it immediately to the Inspectional Services Department at 978-374-2325.